Special Agricultural Zones

2752. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided anything on the Special Agricultural Zones as proposed by reputed scientist Dr. M.S. Swaminathan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The National Commission on Farmers under the chairmanship of Dr. M.S.Swaminathan did not make any recommendation for 'Special Agriculture Zones'.

Grants to Karnataka under National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding

2753. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has requested for release of grants under the National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the allocations made during the last three years under the project to various States, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN):(a)Yes,Sir.

(b) The project proposal submitted by the State Government of Karnataka under National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB) has been approved with total cost of Rs. 2058.00 lakh and the State is participating under the scheme from 2003-04. The Central assistance to the tune of Rs. 2669.53 lakh including Rs. 903.04 lakh under the special package for suicide prone districts has been released so far to the State Implementing Agency (Karnataka Livestock Development Agency) for the implementation of scheme. The details of the funds released during the last three years under the project to various States is given in the Statement.